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Carr Family

of

Isle of Wight & Nansemond Counties

Virginia

by

Eliza Timberlake Davis (Mrs. Charles E.Davis)

Smithfield,Va.

VIRGINIA BOOK COMPANY
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Carr Family

This name has several fobms of spelling, and it has been determined that there are several separate and distinct families bearing the name.

The English family of Carr, seated in Northumberland, considers itself of French origin, dating back to the family of Carre in France.

The Scottish family of Kerr, Ker, Carr is of Anglo-Saxon stock which migrated to Scotland about the year 1300. However, the Carrs of England and France have the same armorial bearings, the Scottish Kerrs bear the same arms but with different tinctures. It is held that most of the American Carrs are traceable to the Scottish family.

There are various theories as to the original source and meaning of the name Carr. Most Authorities attribute its derivation to a locality- signifying moist soil- a wood or grove of alders. In Anglo- Saxon the word signifies a lock, caer in Celtic indicates a fortification. The name is applied in many districts where some castle or eathwork has existed.

One of the early founders of the name in America was George Carr. He was born in London, about 1599. He was one of four brothers, three of whom, Robert, Caleb, and George came to America. Benjamin remained in England. George was one of the earliest settlers in Salisbury, Mass. 1639. He was granted an island in the Merrimac river known as ,"Carr's Island", which was the site of the Carr homestead for many years.

Note: It may be supposed that the Isle of Wight County, Virginia family of Carr, descended from the above-mentioned Robert Carr, as the name Robert is repeated over and over. The first John Carr might have been son of a Robert. As has been stated elsewhere, John Carr did not patent land for his own coming over. He may have been born in Va.

The history of the Carr Family, of Isle of Wight County, Va., apparently begins with John Carr, who was granted 150 acres of land near the head of Southern Branch of Nansemond River, on the 20 Nov., 1654, for the transportation of three persons- William Hardy, David Carr, and Edmond Worrell. ("Pioneers & Cavaliers", by Nelll Nugent.) As John Carr did not receive 50 acres for his own transportation, he had evidently come to the colony at an earlier date, or was a descendant of another Carr family.

In Surry County, which adjoins Isle of Wight, there is to be found a non cupative will of one John Carr (Deeds 2- Page 164) proved by the oaths of William Walding, and Elizabeth Coggin, who stated that on the 5th of March, 1677, John Carr, dying, gave to Joseph Farlow all of his possessions, land and personal effects, among which was a Bible, and stated that his partner, Joseph Farlow, should pay all debts. No children, nor wife was mentioned.

If this is the John Carr that came over with three others, and did not leave a descendent, then it is quite possible that the Carr line of descent came through the David Carr, mentioned previously.

Thomas Carr died in Surry County without a will. The inventory of his estate made by Edward Rowell, executor on May 1st, 1694, gives no clue as to whether, or not, he left descendants.

To return to Isle of Wight County, we do not find a record of the Carr Family until a deed made June 28, 1714, wJohn Carr buys land from Nicholas Tynes, this land being in the Upper Parish of Isle of Wight County.

This John Carr is probably the same who made a will in Isle of Wight County, 19th May, 1734. In this will he mentioned sons, among whom was William Carr. No will of William Carr appears among the Isle of Wight records, and it is due to the fact that he was living across the County Line in Nansemond County, along with other Carr families. There must have been recorded in Nansemond County several wills of the Carr Family in the time that elapsed between the record of John Carr, 1654, and the first Carr will filed in Isle of Wight County, 1734, eighty years.

Michael Brewer and William Carr sold to Thomas English 70 acres, part of 200 acres that belonged to William Vaughan, from him to Wm. Carr. This deed dated 1st Nov., 1768.

One Ann English, daughter of Thomas and Mary Inglish, was already the wife of Nathan ~~English~~ Carr in 1763. As we have no will of William English, it becomes evident that this William Carr, and Thomas Inglish were the parents of Nathan Carr, and Ann Inglish.

Thomas Inglish made a will, and mentioned his wife, Mary. Subsequently, Mary English made her will, in which she mentioned her daughter, Ann, and her son-in-law, Nathan Carr, and her grandson, Thomas Carr.

Thomas Carr married Charlotte Beale, daughter of Benjamin Beale, Jr and his wife, Elizabeth, in Southampton County on June 25, 1789.

Thomas Carr made his will in Isle of Wight County in 1816. He left a son, Nathan Carr, and other children. He deviced to his son, Nathan 102½ acres on Branch that leads to Beaver Dam Branch.

The record of the marriage of the above Nathan Carr cannot be located, but as the Nathan Carr records appear in the old Bible of John Carr and his wife, Nancy, it appears that the wife of Nathan

Carr-Nancy- was Nancy Carr, daughter of Eohn Carr, and his wife, Nancy.

The children of Nathan Carr, and his wife, Nancy are recorded thus:

Mary Elizabeth	born	April 11, 1818
Ann Matilda	born	Dec. 11, 1819.
Eliza ANN	born	Oct. 29, 1821
Sophia Jane	born	Jan. 30, 1823.
James T.	born	April 8, 1825.
Benjamine Lavana		May 4, 1828
Emaline	born	June 1, 1829.

The marriage of Eliza Ann Carr to Jesse Whitehead is recorded in the Marriage Book of Isle of Wight County. This is recorded as Jan. 1, 1843. Parent, Nathan Carr. Eliza Ann Carr Whitehead died November 12, 1899. Jesse Whitehead died August 19, 1876. They were the parents of seven children, namely:

William J.	born	June21, 1845
Sarah Elizabeth		Feb. 7, 1847.
Virginia T.		Jan. 7, 1849.
Jesse T.		May 28, 1854.
Eva E.		Oct. 30, 1856.
Julius		Jan. 16, 1859.
Ida C.		Aug. 16, 1860.

Sarah Elizabeth Whitehead was married to Thomas W. Goring in the home of her father at Carrsville, Isle of Wight County, on Novemver 24, 1866.

Carr Wills , Isle of Wight County, Va.

Will Book 4
John Carr, yeoman, sick and weak etc
Mentions daughter, Mary Carr, gives her hogs & heifer.
Daughter, Elizabeth Carr, hogs.
Daughter, Sarah Carr, heifer and money.
Daughter, Grace, Desk & plate.
Daughter, Eleanor Duck, 1 shilling.
Son, William Carr, gun & sword.
Son, Abraham Carr, iron wedges & cooper's tools.
Son, Hardy Carr, plantation where I now dwell, and 20 shillings for school
All the rest to dear wife, and three youngest children, sons.
To son, John, one shilling.
Son, Robert, " "
Friend- Robert Carr and sons executors.
Made 19 May, 1734.
Probated Sep. 23, 1734. John T Carr.

Witnesses,
John Darden
John Duck

Vol. 4. Page 59.
Robert Carr's Will Made May 10, 1734. Prob. may 26, 1735.
To loving wife, Mary Carr use of dwelling house & half of land for life. Other half to son, Robert Carr, and all at his mother's death. Gives wife horse, saddle && bridle for life.
To daughter, Elizabeth Darden a seal skin trunk, 5 shillings & her part of estate. Makes wife & Robert Carr exors.

Witnesses
Hardy Councill
Michael Council
Charles Council

Robert R Carr

Appraisement of Hardy Carr's Estate (No will)

Pd. Charles Fulgham by Abraham Carr.
Pd. Arthur Applewhaite
Pd. Samuel Holden
X Pd. Capt. James Bridger's Acct.

Spencer Carr's Will W.B.8- Page 505. Newport Parish.
Wife to have land & plantation, then to son, John Carr. Gives John Carr iron pots, large desk and bason, 3 pewter plates, 4 pewter spoons, one gun, man's saddle & bridle. Brother, John Carr, to have these things in keeping until son, John Carr, is 21 years old.
Son, Amos Carr to have bed, spoons, pots etc.
Brother Hardy Carr, a horse & cart etc. Sister Amy Carr, chest & ewe.
X Uncle, Abraham Johnson, and Brother, John Carr exors.
Made July 29, 1778. Spencer Carr.
Wit. Wm. Carr, A

W.B. 10. Page 42.

Abraham Carr's Will Made Jan. 10, 1786. Prob. Sep. 7, 1786.

Son, Mills Carr 56 acres bought of Robert Johnson on other side of road from my home, also bed, sheets, lambs, sows, small desk, bason, gun.
Son, William Carr, bed& furniture large dish, & basong plates, speckeled stock gun.
Grand child Patience Carr 5 shillings & no more.
Daughter, Martha Carr, linnen wheel & woolen wheel, pewter tankard.
Grand child, Sarah Carr, one bed without furniture & no more.
To son, Abraham Carr, large dish, two plates, hand mill.
To wife, Susannah, remainder of plantation, and land for her life or widowhood. At death, or marriage to go to son, Abraham Carr. If Abraham do not reach lawful age, then to son, William Carr.
Wife, and son, Mills Carr, exors.

Abraham Carr.

Witnesses
Elijah Johnson
William Carr
John Carr.

W.B.10.- Page 276. Made 7 Aug., 1779. Prob. 6 Jan. 1794.

John Carr's Will
To son, Jacob Carr, 300 acres where his grandfather did live, and one feather bed bought at Wm. Beale's sale.
To wife, land where I live for her widowhood then to son, Dempsey Carr.
Son, Elisha Carr 100 acres that I bought of Edward Gatling. He to have mare at wife's death, also desk and feather bed.
Mentions children- Jacob, Dempsey, Elisha, Honor, Edey, Priscilla, and Sally. Son, Dempsey, exor.

Witnesses
Joseph Duck
Wm. Fleming
Dempdey Beale

John Carr

W.B. 13- Page 206. Made 3 Oct. 1810- Probated 3 Feb., 1812.

Andrew Carr's Will
Mentions wife, gives her land for life.
Son, Abraham Carr all land & plantation, and if he have no heirs then to two daughters, Nancy & Elisha.
Children, Rhody Fowler, Nancy Carr, Elisha Carr, Abraham Carr.
Friend, Benjamin Bradshaw, exor.

Andrew Carr

Witnesses
Joseph Duck, John Fowler, Joseph Fowler.

W.B. 13. Page, 502.
Susannah Carr s Estate. Paid John Row his wife's legacy. Pd. Abraham Johnson acct. John Carr's acct.

Will Book 14. Page 250. Made 9 August, 1816. Probated Jan. 6, 1817.

Thomas Carr's Will

Mentions wife, Charlotte, and gives to her as long as she is his widow, or for life 100 acres of land, three negroes, Aaron, Tempy, and Jacob, cider still, cart etc.
To son, Nathan Carr 102½ acres of land near dam branch, to King Sale Swamp to the mouth of Shippen's Branch that leads to Beaver Dam Branch, also negro, Venus, ans Jordan, feather bed; furniture, pine chest, stock etc
To daughter, Elizabeth Council a negro boy, Isaac, and a chest.
To son, Benjamin Carr 102½ acres at mouth of Shippen's Branch, to Joseph Hohnson's land, ad. Richard Corson, deceased, two negroes, pine chest, feather bed and furniture etc.
To son, Jesse Carr, 100 acres, negro boy, Tony feather bed & f urniture, cow 7 calf etc.
To daughter, Mary Carr, negro Hidde, and Jacob, feather bed & pine chest.
To son, Solomon Carr 100 acres and the place I now live, ad. Joseph J. Holland's line, to Thomas Daughtrey's place (Thomas deceased) to Little Town road.
To daughter, Sally Carr, negro Jack, a feather bed, furniture and negro, Amaby.
To daughter, Angelina Carr, negro, Elisha, featherbed 7 Furniture, pine chest and negro Tempy.
Wife to sell blacksmith tools, and school the children that are not yet educated.
Names children: Elizaberh, Nancy, Nathan, Benjamin, Mary, Jesse, Solomon, Sally, Angelina, and gives each three dollars.
Gives son, Nathan, ten dollars cash. Friends, John Saunders & son, Benj. ex

Witnesses
Godwin Council
Andrew Lester
Robert Vaughan

Thomas Carr

Charlotte' Carr's Will W.B. 17. Page 40. Made 6 Sep., 1824.

To sons, Nathan & Solomon Carr $ 50.00 each, also hogs and shoats.
To daughter, Angelina Carr $ 50.00, also bed and furniture. Friend, Jos. J. Holland, and son-in-law John Saunders exors.

Charlotte Carr

Witnesses
Robert Vaughan
Rhoda Williams
Margaret Williams

Some Carr deeds.

D.B.2. P. 284. June 28, 1714.
Nicholas Tynes sold to John Carr land in Isle of Wight County.

D.B. 12. Page 161. Nov.5, 1766 Abraham Carr bought land from Robert Johnson & wife.

D.B.4. Page 17. Indenture 22 June,1729 between Edward Stephens, of the Upper Parish of Isle of Wight and Robert Carr of the Lower Par. 150 acres a patent to Barnaby McKennie--- South side of Blackwater.

D.B.5. Page 42. Indenture between Joseph Powell, of the Lower Par. and Robert Carr, Sr. land between Robert Carr & Timothy Duck.

D.B.6. Page 318. 24 June,1755 Gilstrap Williams sells to Robert Carr land that was a patent to Hugh Campbell(will in Nansemond Co.) he wills it to James Cowling, then to Thomas Cowling, and he to Robert Williams, deceased & now to Robert Carr.

D.B.7. Page 141. Gilstrap Williams to Robert Carr 24 June,1745 on Blackwater River.

D.B.8. Page 52. Christopher Reynolds to Robert Carr land in Nottoway Parish on north side of Blackwater River 100 acres, a pat. to Hugh Campbell, part of 1311 acres, to Campbell 21 April,1695, will of Hugh Campbell to Richard Reynolds--- Jan. 14, 1741.

D.B.12. Page 326. Robert Carr & wife Mary sell to Moses Daughtry 225 acres of land-- to Wm. Carr's corner then along John Carr's line. 1 Feb., 1770.

D.B. 12. Page 250. Indenture 1 Nov. 1768 between Michael Brewer & William Carr, and Thomas English 70 acres patent of 200 acres to Wm. Vaughan from him to William Carr.

D.B. 12. Page 396. Feb. 4, 1771 John Carr, of Bute County, N.C. sells to Richard Bradshaw for 30 lbs. 225 acres in Newport Parish, ad. Lat. Griffin, to Towler's, to Edward Gatling, to Moses Daughtry's to Wm. Carr's line, to John Lawrence's line. 7 March, 1771.

D.B. 16. John Carr, Newport Parish sells land to Absalom Beals.
4 Aug. 1787.

D.B. 18. Page 208. John Carr & Patience, 16 June, 1797 sell to Absalom Beale 30 acres which John & Patience heired from Peter Council father to Patiense Carr.

D.B. 21 - Page 378. John Carr, Sr. 30 Aug., 1811, and wife Mary, sell to David Carr co acres for $ 100.

D.B.28. Page 10. 8 Dec., 1827 Nathan Carr & Ann, his wife, sell to Jonathan Robertson for $ 500 land on King Sale Swamp at mouth of Skippen's Branch at Cor, of Jesse Carr, to Joseph Johnson's line to Richard Corson's deceased- 133½ hcres, by survey.

Southampton County Records

Will Book 2. Page 58. Made June 19, 1763. Probated 13 Oct. 1763.

Will of Robert Carr

To eldest son, Robert Carr the plantation where he now lives,and 225 acres adjoining,also 125 acres in Southampton County called Puny Ridge.
To youngest son, John Carr,where I now live and 150 acres adjoining;
also 225 acres in Isle of Wight adjoining the land of my oldest son, Robert on west side of Cabbin Branch and 25 acres on Puny Ridge. If he die without heirs,to his four sisters,Ann Jones,Elizabeth Johnson, Rebecca Carr,and Grace Carr.
To eldest daughter Martha Revel 25 shillings. Gives daughters all household furniture and 20 lbs. Wife,Sarah Carr.

Witnesses
Arthur Smith
Virgis Smith
David Johnson
George Blakely

Robert Carr

Will Book 4. Page 188-Southampton County.

Will of John Carr Made 30 May,1786.

To wife the use of all personal property until son,Lawrence is 21 years. and land on the south side of Cypress Swamp.
To son,Dickerson Carr negro, Lucky,and 30 lbs.
To son,John Carr, the place that I now live on.
Mentions four sons, Lawrence, John, Dickenson, and Robert.
Education of children provided for.
Wife and Elisha Darden & Lemuel Lawrence exors.

Witnesses,
David Edwards
Jesse Carr
Charles Hedgepeth

John Carr.

Miscellaneous.

In the history entitled," seventeenth Century Isle of Wight County Virginia", by John Bennett Boddie,with whom Mrs, Charles E. Davis collaborated to produce,and on page 362,there is found the statement that Elias Carr was Governor of North Carolina. He was the son of Jonas Johnston Carr & Elizabeth Hilliard,and grandson of Col. Jonas Johnston and his wife,Miss Carr. Page 497 of the same book states that Robert Carr mar. the daughter of John Lawrence.

A visit to the State Library, in Richmond, Va., and a careful search of the Court Order Books of Isle of Wight County revealed nothing of any particular interest concerning the Carr Family.

The very absence from the records of litigation and disputes, indicates them to have been law-abiding,peace-loving citizens.

Lazarus Carr appears to have been a cabinet maker,who also made coffins. Copeland Parker,of Isle of Wight, whose distinguished son,Col. Josiah Parker lived at "Macclesfield" was also a cabinet maker; so they must have occupied a position as a craftsman,and highly respected.

Nathan Carr was found to be owning 260 acres of land in Nansemond County,in the year, 1783. Thre others by the name of Carr owned land in Nansemond County,and no doubt living there. These were

John Carr (1783) with 679 acres (Nathan may have been his son)
Mrs. Carr (1783) with 321 acres
Titus Carr (1783) with 266 acres.

In the year 1794 (Nansemond County) Nathan Carr had 260 acres and Elisha Carr had 100 acres, John Carr 350 acres.

Thomas Carr is listed in Revolutionary Soldiers, by Gwathmey.

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